

10/580522

IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 MAY 2006

Description on the basis of Article 19(1) of Treaty

Claim 1 is amended so as to clarify the structure of the accumulator to which the present invention is applied. In other words, the amendment clarifies that a bonding state between the shell and the gas end cover corresponds to a state in which the end surface (35) of the open end portion of the shell is brought into contact with the step concave portion formed in the gas end cover, and the contact portion is welded, instead of a state in which the inner peripheral side surface of the shell is bonded to the gas end cover, and that the fixing portion to which the metallic bellows is fixed is formed in the gas end cover, instead of an independent fixing portion independently formed from the gas end cover being bonded to the gas end cover.

Further, in order to clarify the "dead space", the amendment clarifies that the dead space corresponds to a gap formed between the gas end cover and the spacer in the case that the spacer is installed in the space formed by the gas end cover and the line connecting both sides in one end to which the metallic bellows is fixed.

What is claimed is:

1. (Amended) An accumulator (1) in which an operation member (5) including a metallic bellows (6) fixed to a fixing portion (30) formed in a gas end cover (4) at one end is installed within a housing (2) fixed in accordance with a welding by bringing an end surface (35) in an open end portion of a bottomed tubular shell (3) into contact with a step concave portion (33) formed in said gas end cover (4), and a pressure sealed chamber (8) and a pressure flow-in chamber (9) are formed by said operation member (5),

wherein a cross sectional inner outline (32) of a peripheral edge portion (31) of said gas end cover (4) is an oval shape which is concave to the pressure sealed chamber (8) side, and in the case that a spacer (41) is installed in a space (40) formed by a line connecting both sides of one end portion of the metallic bellows (6) fixed to said fixing portion (30), a dead space is not formed between the gas end cover (4) and the spacer (41).

2. (Deleted)